

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 OPIC-03 IO-10 /077 W  
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R 051702Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1959

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1230

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: PCP ELECTORAL CANDIDATES

1. PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP) RELEASED ITS LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS ON MARCH 3 VIA A PRESS CONFERENNC E AND A SPECIAL EDITION OF PARTY NEWSPAPER "AVANTE." DURING REMARKS AT PRESS CONFERENCE, COMMUNISTS COMMENTED THAT HOLDING OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS IS HISTORICAL EVENT, THAT ELECTIONS HAVE GREAT SIGNIFICANCE AND WILL HAVE GREAT REPERCUSSIONS IN PORTUGUESE POLITICAL LIFE. COMMUNISTS ALSO ANNOUNCED, AS WAS EXPECTED, THAT PARTY WOULD FIELD CANDIDATES IN ALL DISTRICTS OF CONTINENTAL PORTUGAL AND ADJACENT ISLANDS, A TOTAL OF 247.

2. REGARDING MAKE UP OF PCP ELECTORAL LIST, COMMUNIQUE GAVE  
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FOLLOWING STATISTICS ON SOCIAL STATUS OF DELEGATES: 85 INDUSTRIAL

WORKERS, 49 OFFICE WORKERS, 10 AGRICULTURAL WORKERS, 62 INTELLECTUALS, 8 STUDENTS, 6 SMALL AND MEDIUM SHOP OWNERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS AND 2 UNCLASSIFIED BY PROFESSION. THIRTY-SEVEN OF CANDIDATES ARE WOMEN, 58 ARE UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE, 141 ARE BETWEEN 31 AND 50 YEARS OF AGE. YOUNGEST CANDIDATE IS 21 AND OLDEST 74. SOME OF CANDIDATES ARE CATHOLICS AND MANY CANDIDATES HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED, FOR A TOTAL OF 440 COLLECTIVE YEARS.

3. IN RECENT PAST, PCP HAD SAID THAT IT WOULD "QUESTION" RESULTS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF COUNTRY, SUCH AS CONSERVATIVE STRONGHOLD OF VISEU, AND EMIGRANT VOTES COMING FROM AREAS WHERE THERE HAS BEEN NO REAL OPPORTUNITY TO CAMPAIGN. MAR 3 COMMUNIQUE REVERSED THIS POSITION BY ANNOUNCING THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAS SIMPLY DECIDED NOT TO RUN CANDIDATES TO BE ELECTED BY EMIGRANTS.

4. COMMENT: EMPHASIS BY PCP ON WORKER MAKEUP OF CANDIDATE LIST FULLY EXPECTED. THEIR HIGHLIGHTING AGE RANGE OF CANDIDATES PROBABLY IN ANSWER TO CRITICISM FROM IN AND OUT OF PARTY THAT LEADERSHIP PREDOMINANTLY OLD MEN AND WOMEN. FULL LIST OF PCP AND OTHER MAJOR PARTY CANDIDATES FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DATA, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LISBON01230  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750078-0334  
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**Line Count:** 82  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PCP ELECTORAL CANDIDATES  
**TAGS:** PINT, PO, PCP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006